



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**AMERICAN POWs/MIAs IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA  
(SUMMARY)**

**PART 13 OF 26**

**FILE NUMBER : 100-457899**

SUBJECT

POW/MIA

FILE NUMBER

100-457899 Vol 2

26/11/99

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NORFOLK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>7/6/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>6/2-29/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED]</b>	TYPED BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - MISCELLANEOUS; REGISTRATION ACT</b>	

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel dated 5/28/70.  
New York airtel to Bureau and all offices, 6/9/70.  
Norfolk airtels to Bureau dated 6/12/70 and 6/26/70

ENCLOSURESTO BUREAU (2)

Two copies of special section of 6/16/70 edition of "The Virginian-Pilot," a Norfolk daily newspaper entitled "POW-MIA."

TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE (1)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUITTALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <b>[REDACTED]</b>	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① - Bureau (100-457899) (Enc. 2)</li> <li>1 - Albany (Info)</li> <li>1 - Alexandria (Info)</li> <li>1 - Baltimore (Info)</li> <li>1 - Chicago (Info)</li> <li>1 - New York (100-169469) (Enc. 1)</li> <li>1 - WFO (Info) (Enc. 1)</li> <li>1 - Norfolk (100-8833)</li> </ul>	<b>100-457899-33</b> <b>REC 27</b> <b>JUL 18 1970</b> <b>REC 22</b> <b>34</b>

Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations
Agency <b>WFO, CIA, SEC. OF STATE, AUSA</b>		Deleted Copy Sent by Letter Dated <b>5/18/76</b> Per FOIPA Request
Request Recd.		
Date Fwd. <b>7/10/70</b>		
How Fwd. <b>55</b>		

20 JUL 23 1970

COVER PAGE

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One copy each of special section of 6/16/70 edition of "The Virginian-Pilot," a Norfolk daily newspaper entitled "POW - MIA."

LEADS

Information copies are designated for Alexandria, Baltimore, Chicago, Albany, and WFO in view of their investigative interests in this matter.

NEW YORK DIVISION

Following completion of additional investigation, should give consideration to advisability of interviewing

b7c [REDACTED] Both had visited Hanoi.

NORFOLK DIVISION

The Norfolk Division does not intend to interview wives of military personnel missing in action (MIA) unless some unusual reason exists. Interviews will be conducted with known wives of other POWs in this area.

AT [REDACTED] VIRGINIA. Will interview the following:

b7c [REDACTED] Wife of [REDACTED] U. S. Navy, POW

[REDACTED] Wife of [REDACTED] U. S. Navy, MIA

It is noted that [REDACTED] reportedly talked to STEWART BEACHAM concerning the status of her husband. Her husband possibly had been seen in Hanoi. b7c

[REDACTED] Wife of [REDACTED] U. S. Navy, POW b7c

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Wife of [REDACTED]  
U. S. Navy, POW

AT [REDACTED] VIRGINIA. (1) Will interview [REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED]  
U. S. Air Force, POW.

(2) Will contact Naval Investigative Service Office for any pertinent information.

Will report results of contacts with various informants.

AT [REDACTED] VIRGINIA. Will interview [REDACTED] wife of [REDACTED]  
POW.

AT [REDACTED] VIRGINIA. Will interview the wife of [REDACTED]  
whose husband is a POW.

AT [REDACTED] VIRGINIA. [REDACTED] the wife of [REDACTED]  
who is a POW.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Extra copies of this report are being furnished to the Bureau because of the widespread interest in this case.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

345-970 pro/att Serial  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/29/93 BY 9813 [redacted]

Copy to:

Report of:  
Date:

SA [redacted] b7c

Off: Norfolk, Virginia b7c

7/6/70

Field Office File #:

100-6833

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Title:

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF  
SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)**

Character:

**INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS;  
REGISTRATION ACT 1960 MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION**

Synopsis:

[redacted] of National League of Families of American Prisoners in Southeast Asia, advised number of wives of prisoners of war (POW) and men missing in action (MIA) in North Vietnam reside in Norfolk - Virginia Beach area. [redacted] has corresponded with and met representatives of Women Strike For Peace and COLIFAM. She stated Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ of COLIFAM met with several wives of POWs in Virginia Beach in March of 1970. [redacted] claimed [redacted] stated Hanoi formed COLIFAM and had actually selected its members. [redacted]

[redacted] wife of POW, was at meeting and claims [redacted] stated COLIFAM established so that Hanoi could use COLIFAM as means of getting letters from Hanoi to the prisoners' wives in the United States.

[redacted] and [redacted] wives of POWs, went to Paris, France, to confer with representatives of North Vietnamese peace delegation, asking for release of sick and wounded POWs; also went to Geneva, Switzerland, to confer with International Red Cross to have them persuade North Vietnam to allow Red Cross to inspect POW camps and confer with World Council of Churches and International Commission of Jurists. [redacted] wife of POW, advised FERNANDEZ told her he went to Hanoi and had conferred with her husband, [redacted] and two other POWs. Various wives interviewed have received mail from their POW husbands through COLIFAM.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

NF 100-6833 *b7c 801214-2*

DETAILS:

During inquiries concerning another matter covering the period February, 1968, through May, 1970, [REDACTED] Virginia Beach, Virginia, furnished the following information: *b7c*

She is the wife of [REDACTED] United States Navy, who was shot down while in combat over North Vietnam on [REDACTED] 1966. *801214-2*  
She and [REDACTED] have [REDACTED] children.

In January of 1967, she received a letter from her husband which had been written by him in November of 1966 and had been forwarded from Germany. In the letter, he stated that he had been ill for several months, that he had received medical attention, and that eventually, the entire left side of his body would need additional medical treatment. *b7c*

On September 29, 1967, she [REDACTED] WILSON and one other person on television being interviewed in Hanoi. Mrs. WILSON and this other person had apparently gone to Hanoi and had spoken with American prisoners. *801214-2*

[REDACTED] contacted Commander [REDACTED] a representative of Naval Intelligence, who interposed no objections to her contacting Mrs. WILSON.

During the latter part of September, 1967, [REDACTED] telephoned Mrs. WILSON in Washington, D. C. She identified herself and told Mrs. WILSON she had seen her on television. Mrs. WILSON told her the names of the prisoners with whom she had talked in Hanoi. Mrs. WILSON had not seen [REDACTED] however, and she wondered if [REDACTED] had heard from her husband. *b7c*

[REDACTED] told Mrs. WILSON about the one letter she had received from her husband in which he told her that he was injured. *b7c 801214-2*

AD 12/11-2

Mrs. WILSON suggested that [redacted] send to Mrs. WILSON a letter setting forth the circumstances as to her husband's being shot down over Vietnam and, further, setting out that she had received only one letter from him. Mrs. WILSON also suggested that this letter accompany a letter that [redacted] would desire be sent to her husband. Mrs. WILSON claimed that she would handle this through her "contacts." Mrs. WILSON claimed that she had been in touch with representatives of the Women's Union of Vietnam relative to the American prisoners being allowed to write home on a periodic basis. Mrs. WILSON emphasized that she could not handle letters of wives of other American prisoners at that time, however. Mrs. WILSON stated that she desired to just concentrate on [redacted] letter to see if she could get it through to [redacted]

b7c

[redacted] then wrote a letter to her husband and bought the paperback version of the book "Phenomenon of Man." She sealed the book and letter to her husband in an envelope and she sent a cover letter with it to Mrs. WILSON.

former

[redacted] produced a copy of her letter dated September 29, 1967, addressed to Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON, 1400 29th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20007. The letter reads as follows:

b7c

"Thank you for talking with me on Monday with regard to your recent visit to Hanoi and your visit with some of the prisoners. I was pleased to hear that the prisoners you saw and talked with were in good health and obviously well cared for, but I do feel that you should be aware of our side of the picture.

former

"I agree with your statement of trust and understanding being important on both sides. The Woman's Union representatives stated to you that the prisoners are allowed to write once a month and are being humanely treated. How can we believe this? Approximately twenty letters



"arrived at Christmas time, which is a very small percentage for the amount of prisoners held. The films that have been released from Hanoi show most of the pilots subjected to much humiliation. There has never been a list of captured personnel issued. How can there be trust and understanding when this is the case?

"My husband was shot down on [REDACTED] 1966, and on [REDACTED] 1966, Hanoi released his picture with a statement. I heard nothing more until January of this year when I received one letter that had been written in November of 1966. He also obviously had not received any mail from me up to that point, for his letter was addressed to Florida, our address prior to June of 1966. My husband did state that he had been injured and had received some medical care but would require more. He also stated that his flying career was ended, therefore, I believe his injuries to be quite extensive. I am naturally quite concerned! I cannot understand why they will not even allow communication and of course detaining injured men who are of no further threat to them is against all laws of humanity.

b7c

20/1/67-2

"If the Woman's Union of North Vietnam is sincere surely verification and communication with regard to the prisoners is the first step toward trust and understanding. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have and if you can establish contact there are many other wives in the area that would be most grateful, as I am, for any assistance you might be able to give them. I am forwarding my October letter to you so that you might attempt delivery. I have also taken the liberty of sending a small book for my husband. It is the Phenomenon of Man by de Chardin which I know he would enjoy and is not of a controversial nature."

b7c 20/1/67-2

[REDACTED] did not receive an immediate response from Mrs. Wilson. She was passing through Washington, D. C., on or about November 1, 1967, and

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she again telephoned Mrs. WILSON. She asked Mrs. WILSON if she had received the correspondence and the book and Mrs. WILSON replied in the affirmative. Mrs. WILSON was apologetic and said that her office staff was behind in its paper work. b7c

[redacted] then furnished a letter which she had received from Women Strike for Peace, Office of DAGMAR WILSON, 3306 Ross Place, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20008. This letter was dated November 2, 1967, and was sent to [redacted] It reads as follows: b7c

"Dear Friend,

"We wish to acknowledge your inquiry regarding captive pilots in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. We are forwarding a list of the names of men whose families have inquired about them to our contacts in North Vietnam. We also forward letters to the men themselves which are sent to our office here.

"We are glad to do what we can to increase communications between the men and their families. The prolonged waiting in inactivity and doubt must be very hard to endure.

"Be assured that we shall let you know as soon as we learn anything about these pilots.

"Yours sincerely, b7c

/s/ Dagmar Wilson ML

"Dagmar Wilson" b7c

In the fall of 1967, [redacted] sent several Christmas packages through the mail to her husband, as did the wives of other prisoners with whom she is acquainted. The packages from the other wives were returned to them after a short period of time but [redacted] packages were not returned until January, 1968. b7c

[redacted] asked [redacted] if she could contact Mrs. WILSON to see if the Women Strike for Peace could reroute packages to prisoners from Vienna, Austria, to North Vietnam. [redacted] noted that in an earlier conversation with Mrs. WILSON, the latter had mentioned that she knew someone in Vienna who could handle such packages. b7c

Around Christmas, 1967, [redacted] received a collect telephone call from New York from a woman who identified herself as "Mr. BELLINGER's secretary." It appeared that Mrs. WILSON had sent Mr. BELLINGER's office [redacted] name, address, and telephone number. The caller was of the impression that [redacted] was a member of the Women Strike for Peace. Mrs. WILSON had contacted BELLINGER's office relative to having packages rerouted to the American prisoners in North Vietnam. The secretary stated that there would be a meeting in Cuba of BELLINGER's organization concerning the American prisoners of war. She mentioned that possibly some students might be able to go to Vietnam to visit the prisoners. [redacted] asked the secretary if she, [redacted] could go to Vietnam but the secretary replied that she did not think this was possible. b7c

[redacted] stated that she has read in the newspaper that a [redacted] has led various anti-Vietnamese war demonstrations apparently in Washington, D. C., as well as New York City. b7c

On January 9, 1968, [redacted] again telephoned Mrs. WILSON, and Mrs. WILSON stated that she could take several packages to the American prisoners and have them routed through several "contacts" in Europe, the identities of which she did not specify. She related that a meeting would soon be held in Europe and that the Women Strike for Peace would send two representatives to meet with representatives from the Women's Union Delegation of North Vietnam. She said she could possibly accept three or four small packages.



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The meeting would be for the purpose of getting "a group" of persons to go to North Vietnam in April, 1968. [redacted] asked Mrs. WILSON if she [redacted] would be allowed to go to Hanoi. [redacted] stated that she thought this was a "great idea" and appeared very enthusiastic. Mrs. WILSON stated that the purpose of the meeting with the Women's Union of North Vietnam had as its primary purpose better communications between prisoners and their families. b7c

Mrs. WILSON stated that [redacted] would first have to be investigated and she requested that [redacted] send her a letter explaining why Mrs. [redacted] wanted to go to North Vietnam. Mrs. [redacted] told her emphatically that she wanted to go there to see her husband. She stated that this would be taken up at this proposed meeting in Europe. Mrs. WILSON stated that she herself would not go to Europe inasmuch as her passport has been lifted but that a Mrs. (First Name Unknown) German would go to the meeting. b7c

Under date of January 10, 1968, Mrs. [redacted] sent the following letter to Mrs. [redacted] WILSON, Northwest, Washington, D. C. 20007: b7c

"As per our conversation of January 9th, I would like to advise that small parcels are being forwarded to you from Mrs. [redacted] and [redacted] and Mike is enclosed. If you feel that this is too many to take please delete mine and return it to me. [redacted] is the one with the glasses that we feel is most urgent. I do hope all reach you in time and that you are successful in having the Women of North Vietnam accept them for delivery to our husbands. b7c

I am also taking the liberty of forwarding a letter to you, addressed to the People of North Vietnam. Would you be good enough to deliver this to the Women's Union delegation that you will meet with later this month. This letter contains questions from families of prisoners b7c



"of war and personnel missing in action regarding the humane treatment of said prisoners. I would request that they take this letter and present it to their government. The contents of this letter are basically the same that we have submitted to our government and it will be released shortly. Each question refers to statements that have been made public by the North Vietnamese government that we would like clarified. Since each question concerns only the welfare of each prisoner I am certain that you and your colleagues will also be eager to have a complete airing of these discrepancies concerning the humane treatment of ALL prisoners held captive by the North Vietnamese government.

"As I had stated to you I would like to be given permission to visit North Vietnam with the sole intent of visiting with my husband. There is an Air Force wife who would also like to travel with me, for her husband is a prisoner of war. We would appreciate your making inquiry about the possibility of such a trip. If you feel this is possible I would like some information pertaining to travel necessities, cost, and an assurance that I would be permitted to visit with my husband once I arrived in North Vietnam.

"Thank you for your interest and assistance and I would greatly appreciate an acknowledgement of this package and if possible an acknowledgement that the enclosed letter has been delivered to the Woman's Union delegation."

Mrs. [redacted] identified [redacted] and [redacted] as wives of other American prisoners. She stated that Mrs. [redacted] had felt it imperative to send glasses which her husband urgently needed. b2c

In her letter Mrs. [redacted] referred to a letter addressed to the People of North Vietnam. Mrs. [redacted] furnished a copy of this letter which reads as follows: b2c

"AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH VIETNAM

"FROM: FAMILIES OF PRISONERS OF WAR AND  
PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION.

"WE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

"HANOI HAS STATED THAT THE PRISONERS ARE  
RECEIVING HUMANE TREATMENT

"TO SUPPORT THIS CLAIM

"WHEN WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM  
RELEASE ALL NAMES OF MEN HELD CAPTIVE?  
(Out of approximately 600 men listed as  
missing in action a handful have been  
acknowledged as prisoners of war)

"WHEN WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM  
ALLOW INSPECTION BY AN IMPARTIAL GROUP OF  
ALL DETENTION CAMPS? (Only in this way can  
we have assurance of adequate food, medical  
care and personal needs being provided)

"WHEN WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM  
ALLOW ALL PRISONERS TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR  
FAMILIES? (All visitors to Hanoi are told  
that the prisoners are exchanging letters  
regularly with their families and they have  
released films and public statements to this  
effect. THIS IS NOT TRUE! (About 1 out of  
25 known prisoners have been allowed to write  
at long irregular intervals.)

"WHEN WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM  
ALLOW REPATRIATION OF WOUNDED AND SICK PRISONERS?  
(Release of prisoners held by the South Vietnamese  
government has already taken place.)

"WHEN WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM  
ALLOW ALL THE PRISONERS TO RECEIVE GIFT PARCELS?  
(Two years in a row they have refused to accept  
packages.)

"THE ONLY WAY HANOI CAN TRULY SHOW THE WORLD THEIR GOOD WILL IS BY RELEASING A LIST OF PRISONERS HELD, ALLOWING INSPECTION OF ALL CAMPS BY AN IMPARTIAL GROUP AND ALLOW THE MONTHLY LETTERS THEY CLAIM ARE WRITTEN TO BE SENT AND RECEIVED, AND RELEASE THE SICK AND WOUNDED PRISONERS."

b7c In reply to Mrs. [REDACTED] letter to Mrs. WILSON dated January 10, 1958. Mrs. (First Name Unknown) BERMAN sent Mrs. [REDACTED] a letter. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she had forwarded the letter to [REDACTED] of the Navy. She recalled, however, that Mrs. BERMAN mentioned that she had received the packages and was taking them along to Europe and would speak to the Women's Union of North Vietnam about them. Mrs. BERMAN stated, however, that she would not deliver the letter addressed to the People of North Vietnam as Mrs. [REDACTED] did not feel that it would help the cause of her organization. b7c ROBINSON

b7c Mrs. [REDACTED] is of the opinion that Mrs. BERMAN is probably now in Europe and she assumes that following her return to the United States, she will be contacted by Mrs. BERMAN. b7c ROBINSON

Mrs. [REDACTED] explained that in reference to the letter to the People of North Vietnam, she had earlier taken it to the United Nations and hoped to discuss the matter with Ambassador ARTHUR GOLDBERG. She had hoped that this letter could be read to the General Assembly. She was unable to see the Ambassador and later spoke with Governor Harriman, who was opposed to having this letter read at the United Nations.

She stated that she had turned this open letter over to the Navy with signatures of the wives of several American prisoners and it is her understanding that the Defense Department has arranged to have the letter sent to Ho Chi Minh.



*b7c 30/3/54*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she is obviously concerned over the welfare of her husband. She has given very serious consideration to the matter and she feels that if it were possible she would travel to Hanoi in order to be reassured concerning him and speak with him. She stated that the wife of an Air Force officer, whose name she did not disclose, is also interested in going. She stated, however, that she has not discussed with that Air Force wife any of her contacts with the Women Strike for Peace.

*b7c 30/3/54*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] emphasized that she would notify the FBI following any additional contact with her by Mrs. BERMAN or anyone else in the Women Strike for Peace. After such contact she might come to a firmer decision as to whether or not she would attempt to travel to North Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she feels quite certain that no personal harm would come to her and realizes the possibility that the North Vietnamese might use her visit as a propaganda tool.

*b7c 30/3/54*  
She further added that [REDACTED] is dying of cancer of the liver in [REDACTED] and his physical condition might be a factor in her decision to attempt to travel to North Vietnam.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she does not want the State Department to know about her intentions of traveling to Hanoi because she feels certain that they would block her efforts. She said that she does not have a passport; that when she applied for a passport she would probably indicate that she desired to travel to Europe only.

*b7c 30/3/54*  
In conclusion, Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that in all probability, she will never have the opportunity of traveling to Hanoi but emphasized that she would first wait for word from the Women Strike for Peace.



On April 1, 1968, she advised as follows:

She related that under date of March 26, 1968, she received a letter from Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON, 2306 [redacted] Washington, D. C., N.W. 20008. b7c

In the letter Mrs. WILSON commented that she had recently received word that all letters the Women Strike for Peace (WSFP) had forwarded to captive pilots have been turned over to the proper authorities for distribution. She did not know, however, whether the letters actually reached their destination. She further commented that she has been told that the delivery of mail in Vietnam is very difficult because of the United States bombing. b7c

The letter further indicated that the WSFP has a new channel setup, but it was not known if this arrangement would work. Through this setup, the organization would be able to receive letters from captive pilots as well as send letters to them. b7c

Mrs. [redacted] requested that if Mrs. [redacted] wanted to send a letter to a captive pilot, she should address an envelope as follows: b7c

"Aux. Boif. Soins.  
de la Croif. Rouge  
Viet Namienne  
Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Hanoi"

The letter to the pilot should be typewritten and double-spaced on a thin airmail sheet of paper. b7c

The letter to the pilot and the envelope addressed to him should then be mailed to Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON at the above Washington, D. C., address. b7c

Mrs. [redacted] stated that she intends to direct a letter to her husband by the above means. She intends to ask Mrs. [redacted] how many such letters Mrs. WILSON could handle at any one time. b7c

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b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that Mrs. WILSON made no mention in her letter concerning Mrs. (First Name Unknown) GERMAN, who was supposedly speaking with a North Vietnamese delegation in Europe concerning the shipment of letters and packages to captive American pilots.

b2c

Mrs. [REDACTED] related that she had received a short letter from her husband dated December 23, 1967, which was mailed to [REDACTED] residence in which he was aware that his wife and family were all well.

On April 15, 1968, she advised as follows:

She has just received another letter from her husband, who is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. His letter was dated March 13, 1968, and he referred to the fact he had received a letter and photographs from Mrs. [REDACTED] on Christmas of 1967. The letter and photographs had been forwarded by Mr. [REDACTED] to him in February, 1967.

b2c

She further related that she has received another letter from Mrs. [REDACTED] 1006 Ross [REDACTED], Washington, D. C., W. W., under date of April 9, 1968. The letter indicates that each wife of a captive United States pilot would be able to send one letter per month but no packages. The letters should be forwarded to Mrs. WILSON, who in turn would forward the letters to the pilots. Mrs. WILSON indicated, however, that she was giving no assurances that their procedure of forwarding these letters would actually work.

b2c

b2c

On April 29, 1968, she furnished the following information:

She stated that on or about March 24, 1968, she had sent a letter to her husband through Senator Edward Kennedy. On April 17, 1968, Senator Kennedy had replied to her stating that he hopes he has been

successful in getting her letter through to her husband, who was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. *FOIA b7c*

On or about April 10, 1968, Mrs. [REDACTED] received a letter from Mrs. [REDACTED] of the WSFP, 1505 [REDACTED] Way, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that Senator KENNEDY had sent Mrs. [REDACTED] letter to the WSFP in Washington, D. C. The WSFP in Washington, D. C., had thought the letter was to Mrs. [REDACTED] son, who was imprisoned in North Vietnam. The WSFP in Washington, D. C., in turn had referred the letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] who advised she was en route to Europe to meet with a women's organization from North Vietnam. *b7c*

On or about April 25, 1968, Mrs. TAYLOR sent Mrs. [REDACTED] an airmail letter from Paris, France, stating that she had given the letter to the North Vietnamese women's organization, who in turn had promised to deliver it to the Chief of Prisons in North Vietnam. *b7c*

On May 14, 1968, she advised as follows: *FOIA b7c*

[REDACTED] has now received a letter from Mrs. [REDACTED] of the WSFP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She related that Mrs. [REDACTED] had earlier gone to Paris, France, and had given a letter from Mrs. [REDACTED] to her husband to the North Vietnamese Women's organization. *b7c*

In the letter, Mrs. TAYLOR indicated that three women were going to visit Hanoi from England. These women are Canadian or British citizens. Mrs. TAYLOR suggested that Mrs. [REDACTED] write one of the women requesting the woman to deliver a message to Mrs. [REDACTED] husband, who is imprisoned in North Vietnam, and to bring back a message from the husband. *b7c*

Mrs. TAYLOR related she had been in London, England. She identified one of the women as Mrs. [REDACTED] England. She identified [REDACTED] from Canada. Mrs. [REDACTED] *b7c*



Mrs. TAYLOR suggested that Mrs. [REDACTED] write a letter to Mrs. VORHAUS. She pointed out that the three women will meet with the North Vietnamese Women's Organization, apparently in Paris. Mrs. TAYLOR suggested that Mrs. [REDACTED] ask Mrs. VORHAUS whether if the prison [REDACTED] in Hanoi had delivered an earlier letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] husband. 10/11/68  
b7c

Mrs. TAYLOR further suggested that when Mrs. [REDACTED] writes to Mrs. VORHAUS, she enclose a letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] husband.

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she telephoned Mrs. [REDACTED] and asked her if Mrs. VORHAUS would accept letters from wives of other prisoners. Mrs. TAYLOR felt certain that she would. Mrs. TAYLOR further stated that because of the peace talks and the bombing halt, she felt the three women going to Hanoi from England could confer with some of the prisoners of war. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] then related she sent a letter to Mrs. VORHAUS enclosing a letter for her husband and telling Mrs. VORHAUS that the wives of other prisoners will be writing to her.

On August 23, 1968, Mrs. [REDACTED] stated as follows: 10/11/68  
b7c

She had received a letter from Mrs. WILLIAM TAYLOR of the WSFP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on approximately August 1, 1968. In the letter, Mrs. TAYLOR advised that she has heard nothing from the women who went to Hanoi in May, 1968, and that she does not know if the women were able to take Mrs. [REDACTED] letters to her husband, [REDACTED] United States Navy, who is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. b7c

Mrs. TAYLOR suggested that Mrs. [REDACTED] and other women should mount a campaign asking for cessation of the bombing in Vietnam; further, that Mrs. [REDACTED] would be happy to send her material from reputable citizens to back up her position. 10/11/68



for 12-2  
b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she has no intention of engaging in such activity.

She further advised that on August 8, 1968, she received a civilian form prescribed by the Red Cross, mailed to her by Stewart Neachan of the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The form contained a message, six lines long, from her husband. In the message he wished [REDACTED] good health and wished "happy birthdays" to various members in the family.

b7c

On October 21, 1968, Mrs. [REDACTED] advised as follows:

b7c

On September 16, 1968, she had directed a letter to Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON, WSFP, Washington, D. C. In the letter she told Mrs. WILSON that she had received a note from her husband, who continues to be a prisoner of war in North Vietnam, and she asked Mrs. WILSON why only fifty prisoners of war were allowed to write when at least 1,000 such men were being detained. She also inquired as to any available means of sending Christmas packages to the prisoners in North Vietnam with the assurance that the packages would be received.

b7c

for 12-2

By letter dated October 12, 1968, MARY CHANDLER, Secretary to Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON, directed a letter to Mrs. [REDACTED]. In the letter CHANDLER pointed out that the WSFP has very little specific information and could not answer Mrs. [REDACTED] questions. It was indicated that the WSFP would forward Mrs. [REDACTED] letter to someone else. CHANDLER's letter continued that they had done everything possible to facilitate communications between captive pilots and their families.

b7c

The letter further indicated that Mrs. WILSON had previously stated that the continued bombing of North Vietnam was one factor creating difficulties and further that the delivery of mail was one of the overwhelming problems facing a nation which has been at war so long. The letter concludes that the WSFP is working tirelessly to end the war so the men can return to their families.

for 12-2

BO 11/22

On December 9, 1968, Mrs. [REDACTED] Virginia, advised that she had received the following letter in an envelope postmarked November (date illegible) at [REDACTED] California. The return address on the envelope was Mrs. [REDACTED] SAGAN, 2 Oak Drive, Alhambra, California:

October 22, 1968.

"My Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

"Mrs. Dagmar Wilson has forwarded to me your letter of September 16, 1968. I am most sympathetic with the thoughts and questions which you have posed in your letter.

"I am having copies made of your letter, and will have these forwarded to Europe and to Viet Nam. I feel that in this way we will be able to procure the fastest and most effective action.

"At the present time, I am unable to give you a firm answer regarding the Christmas parcels. However, I will make enquiries, and will let you know just as soon as I have a concrete answer.

"Most sincerely,

"Ginetta Sagan"  
(first name somewhat illegible)

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that this is the first correspondence she has received from SAGAN and does not know of [REDACTED]'s relationship to the WSFP.

She noted that [REDACTED] referred to Mrs. [REDACTED] letter to Mrs. Dagmar Wilson (WSFP) on September 16, 1968, in which letter Mrs. [REDACTED] inquired of Mrs. [REDACTED] as to any available means of sending Christmas packages to the prisoners in North Vietnam with the assurance that the packages would be received.

Common

b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] expressed the opinion that she feels that the USFP is extremely limited in its ability to get correspondence and parcels through to the prisoners of war in North Vietnam. She stated that she will not reply to Mrs. SAGAN's letter to her.

On February 19, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED] advised as follows:

b7c

She stated that on February 3, 1969, she had written a letter to Mrs. DAGMAR WILSON, Women Strike for Peace, Washington, D. C. In the letter, she told Mrs. WILSON that she had received a letter from Mrs. GINETTA SAGAN of Atherton, California. She further advised Mrs. WILSON that she was aware that the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, France, had advised that Christmas parcels would be accepted for prisoners in 1968. She thanked Mrs. WILSON for her assistance and expressed the hope that the prisoners would be allowed to acknowledge receipt of the parcels.

She stated that there was an article in one of the local newspapers that the North Vietnamese delegation would allow the acceptance of Christmas parcels.

She stated that she has had no additional correspondence from either Mrs. WILSON or Mrs. SAGAN, and has had no additional correspondence from her husband.

Relative to GINETTA SAGAN mentioned above, the following information is set forth:

b7c

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), San Francisco, California, concerning Mrs. [REDACTED] were reviewed in 1965. These indicate that [REDACTED] was naturalized June 6, 1961, in San Francisco. Her full name was given as [REDACTED]. Her residence was indicated as 1111 [REDACTED] Valley, California. On [REDACTED], she married LEONARD A. SAGAN, who was born [REDACTED] in San Francisco.

b7c

Common-2



NF 100-6833

18

60212-2

b7c

[REDACTED]

On May 29, 1969, Mr. [REDACTED] advised as follows:

b7c

In the latter part of April, 1969, she received two letters, apparently Christmas mail, from her husband, [REDACTED] who continues to be a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

b7c

With the permission of a representative of the Department of the Navy, she visited Mrs. DOROTHY WILSON and Mrs. (first name unknown) [REDACTED] at the former's residence in the Georgetown section of Washington, D. C., on May 9, 1969.

At that time, Mrs. [REDACTED] discussed prisoner of war release with the two other women.

b7c

She related that Mrs. WILSON appeared to display interest in the humane aspects of the prisoner of war issue, whereas, Mrs. [REDACTED], whom she described as an oriental-looking person, displayed a more belligerent attitude. During the conversation, Mrs. [REDACTED] noted that the list of names of prisoners of war as obtained from the Red Cross differed from that released by the Hanoi government.

b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] pointed out during the conversation that she recalled reading in a newspaper article sometime ago that a North Vietnamese spokesman claimed that over 1,000 prisoners were being held and also recalled that U Thant had stated when advocating a bombing halt that when such halt was accomplished the Hanoi government would discuss prisoner exchange with the United States. This apparently has never been done, however.

b7c

60212-2



When Mrs. [REDACTED] mentioned this to Mrs. WILSON, the latter stated that this was the type of material they "needed to wave in the faces of the North Vietnamese."

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated during the conversation that she knew quite certainly that the North Vietnamese kept an accurate list of men shot down and held captive. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] also stated that she was shown a vase with an inscription made from the 2,000th plane shot down over North Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that this was obviously in very poor taste and upset her, Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that under date of May 16, 1969, she directed a letter to Mrs. [REDACTED] enclosing two copies of a newspaper article.

The letter reads as follows:

(TRUE COPY)

[REDACTED] b7c  
16 May 1969

Virginia [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
10th Street, [REDACTED]  
Washington, D. C. [REDACTED]

"Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c b7c

"I would like to thank you and Mrs. [REDACTED] for talking with Mrs. [REDACTED] and me on the 9th of May. b7c b7c

"As per our conversation with regard to the release of the prisoners of war held in North Vietnam, I am forwarding the two articles making reference to the number of prisoners held by the North Vietnamese and also an article dated July 30, 1968, with a direct quote from Xuan Thuy, head of the Hanoi delegation. b7c b7c

"As you will note, when the question came up with regard to the release of American prisoners of war he replied, 'Such questions that interest the other side can be discussed only after the United States unconditionally ceases its bombing and other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of (North) Vietnam.' It has been publically stated by Ambassador Harriman, Ambassador Lodge, and by President Nixon that the prisoner issue has been brought up repeatedly with no response from the other side.

"I believe these articles will give you something, to quote you, 'to wave under their noses' as propof. I truly hope that Mr. Deer representing the International Red Cross Societies will have some success with the prisoner issue for I fear the world is losing patience with the grandiose statements made by the North Vietnamese government regarding the humane treatment of prisoners, when in fact to the contrary, the barest of humanitarian rights have been denied them for almost five years now.

"I shall look forward to hearing from you with regard to this issue. Any assistance you might be able to lend with regard to the release of the prisoners will ultimately aid in the end of the war I'm certain.

"Sincerely,

*fol-m-2*

[REDACTED]

*b7c*

"2 enclosures"

On August 21, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished the following information:

*b7c*

Recently, BERNARD C. DAVIS, of "Liberation" magazine, had been invited to travel to North Vietnam

to return to America with three American prisoners of war released by the North Vietnamese. While in Hanoi, he was able to obtain fifteen messages from prisoners of war and brought them with him to the United States. One of them was a message from the husband of Mrs. [REDACTED] U. S. Navy, who is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. b7c

On August 1, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED] received the following teletype from New York, New York: b7c

"Mrs. [REDACTED] (DLR or telephone immediately) b7c

[REDACTED] Virginia b7c

"Last month I was invited to travel to North Vietnam to escort home three American prisoners who had been released by the North Vietnamese. b7c

"While in Hanoi, the North Vietnamese Government handed over to me several unsealed message forms from other Americans still in the camps for transmittal to their families in the States. Below is the text of the message. I felt that it was especially moving and spoke strongly of the human courage of the men still in the camps. Thinking you might want to share such a statement with the American public, I suggested to friends at Time magazine that they contact you about the possibility of reprinting the message in their next issue. Of course that is your decision, and I am mailing the original message on to you. b7c



NF 100-6833  
22

On August 10, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED] received the following message :

"Dear Friend, Enclosed is the message whose contents I wired to you yesterday. This message and a number of others like it were handed to me by a North Vietnamese government representative just prior to boarding the International Control Commission plane that left Hanoi earlier this week. I am happy to be able to send this message along, and I am sorry I could not bring any further news or information about all the prisoners now in Vietnam. Yours sincerely,

s/ "Rennard C. Davis"

The message was sent in an envelope marked air mail, special delivery, and it had the return address of "The National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, New York 10012, Rennard C. Davis."

Following receipt of the above-mentioned telegram from DAVIS, Mrs. [REDACTED] promptly sent a telegram to "Time" magazine advising that this matter constituted unwarranted invasion of her privacy, and she instructed "Time" not to print the message from her husband.

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she then received a telegram from "Time" indicating that there had been a misunderstanding, and that, under no circumstances, would they print the message from her husband.

Mrs. [REDACTED] has had no correspondence from or to the WSFP in the recent past, and she feels that because that organization has not made any more overtures to her they have been unsuccessful in getting additional messages to the American prisoners of war in North Vietnam.



On September 19, 1969, she advised as follows:

She is a four-state area coordinator for the National League of Families of American Prisoners in Southeast Asia. As coordinator, she covers the States of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. This is a nationwide organization of wives of servicemen who are being held prisoners of war in North Vietnam. The purposes of the League are twofold, namely, to endeavor to have the prisoners of war released and to bring to the attention of the public the mistreatment of prisoners of war in North Vietnam. She stated that the representatives of the League with whom she has been in contact appear to be dedicated to their causes, and she knows of no one in the League that has attempted any disruptive tactics.

She related that various wives of this organization went to Washington, D. C., on September 17, 1969. They appeared at a peace conference and then sat in on a special order of business in the chambers of the House of Representatives. There, Congressmen sponsored a resolution demanding humane treatment for Americans in the hands of the North Vietnamese.

While in Washington, D. C., [REDACTED] contacted EUGENE WILSON of the Women Strike for Peace. Mrs. WILSON stated that she was aware that Mrs. [REDACTED] and wives of other servicemen held prisoners in North Vietnam had received considerable publicity over their appearance in Washington, D. C. Mrs. WILSON stated that she had been outside of the United States and then asked Mrs. [REDACTED] if she (Mrs. [REDACTED]) would be interested in organizing a group of wives of these prisoners for the purpose of demanding that the United States Government stop the war and withdraw troops from Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] replied to Mrs. [REDACTED] that already President NIXON said that he was withdrawing troops and wanted peace.

b7c b7D-2

Mrs. WILSON stated that the war must be totally stopped or the prisoners of war would probably not be released. Mrs. [REDACTED] then told Mrs. WILSON that she would not discuss the war politically or militarily, but told Mrs. WILSON that she vigorously protested the inhumane treatment afforded the prisoners. Mrs. [REDACTED] asked Mrs. [REDACTED] if she was an American citizen, and Mrs. [REDACTED] commented that the wives felt the Government was doing everything possible in regard to the prisoner of war situation. Mrs. [REDACTED] told her that it was the responsibility of the North Vietnamese to afford humane treatment to the prisoners. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] related that the WSFP has started a clipping service and has sent these clippings to the North Vietnamese representatives in Paris. These clippings relate to the handling of the prisoners of war.

Mrs. [REDACTED] told Mrs. WILSON that the North Vietnamese should be fully advised as to the feelings of the wives of these prisoners of war in regard to the inhumane treatment concerning them and to the lack of information given out. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that four wives of American servicemen from Texas had gone to Paris to talk with representatives of the North Vietnamese, and she felt that this opened the door to other wives going there. These four wives do not know if their husbands are alive, and she presumes the North Vietnamese will advise them. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] further related that she told Mrs. [REDACTED] that she felt it was an outrageous act of irresponsibility for the North Vietnamese to decline in most instances to identify certain prisoners of war. b7c

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she further told Mrs. [REDACTED] that she had no intention of organizing any members of the above League to act in any way for the WSFP. b7c b7D-2

60 M-2  
b7c

On October 30, 1969, Mrs. [REDACTED] advised as follows:

She stated that she has had no recent contact with DAGMAR WILSON or anyone else affiliated with the WSFP. She stated that she, Mrs. [REDACTED] is continuing her efforts with the National League of Families of American Prisoners in Southeast Asia in an effort to arouse public concern over the treatment of American prisoners of war in North Vietnam. b7c

On January 21, 1970, she advised that on December 10, 1969, she had received a letter from her husband dated November 20, 1969. The letter had been forwarded to her by cover letter from Mrs. [REDACTED], WSFP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who had recently visited Hanoi and undoubtedly had obtained the letter from the North Vietnamese.

She related that she then received a letter on December 17, 1969, from her husband dated October 9, 1969, which had been mailed directly from Hanoi.

On December 24, 1969, she received a Christmas card from her husband which was contained in an envelope postmarked at San Francisco, California, with the return address of the WSFP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she has had no personal contact with any representatives of the WSFP and does not contemplate having such contact in the immediate future. b7c

On January 26, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that on January 24, 1970, she received an invitation from the WSFP. It was contained in an envelope mailed on January 22, 1970, from Washington, D. C. The invitation was for Mrs. [REDACTED] to attend a gathering at the Cannon House Office Building, First and Independence Boulevard, in caucus room 345, Washington, D. C., January 27, 1970. b7c

ED 10-11-70



*b7c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] was invited to meet CORA WEISS and members of Congress to hear firsthand WEISS's report on Hanoi. She had spent 17 days in December of 1969 in Hanoi at the invitation of the Vietnamese Women's Union and the North Vietnamese Prime Minister. WEISS was to give a report on the survivors of the My Lai Massacre and captured United States pilots as well as to report on her travels throughout the bombed sectors of North Vietnam. *80 12/14-2*

WEISS was described as being co-chairman of the recent Mobilization March on Washington, D. C.

The above function was being sponsored by the WSFP.

The invitation also indicated that there would be a public meeting on January 27, 1970, at the Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., where WEISS would also speak.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that other wives of prisoners of war in North Vietnam who live in the Norfolk - Virginia Beach area also received such invitations. She stated that she is not going to accept the invitation and to her knowledge, none of the other wives in the area are accepting.

On February 4, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] *b7c* advised as follows:

She stated that she did not accept the invitation from the Women Strike for Peace to attend a gathering at the Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D. C., on January 27, 1970, to hear the report of CORA WEISS on her visit to Hanoi.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED], both of [REDACTED] Virginia, and both of whose husbands are in the United States Navy and prisoners of war in North Vietnam, attended the gathering. *80 12/14-2*



NF 100-5833  
27

*b2c* *no rth-2*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she had received a letter dated January 27, 1978, from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, 365 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, with attachments.

A copy of the letter with attachments follows:

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

345 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 745-1490

## CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

## Co-chairmen:

Steve Dellinger  
Core Weiss

## Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

## Committee (in formation):

Rennie Davis  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
\*Maggie Godder  
\*Steve Halliwell  
Stewart Macchan  
Prof. Bob Solzman  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
\*Tudi Young

\*staff

January 27, 1970

Dear Mr. [REDACTED] b2c

We assume that by this time you have received the letter from North Vietnam which was forwarded to you by members of our Committee. We are enclosing an Information Sheet which explains the work of the Committee of Liaison.

The North Vietnamese have said that prisoners will be able to receive and send one letter a month. As noted in the Information Sheet, you may send letters directly to North Vietnam (note the mail address and route). If you would like us to forward them for you, please enclose but do not affix stamps as we will be sending them on in packets. We are also enclosing a letter form which you might wish to use, whether you send it directly or through us. Prisoners can also receive one package, not over six pounds in weight, every other month.

To insure the safe and rapid delivery of mail from prisoners, the North Vietnamese will send periodic packets of letters through our office. The letters will then be dispatched immediately to the families to whom they are addressed.

The only way to secure the eventual release of prisoners is through the decision by the United States to end the war. But in the meantime we are pleased to be able to assist in the communication between men and their families. We hope to forward letters on to you again soon.

Sincerely,

Maggie Godder  
Maggie Godder

**NGƯỜI GỬI (Addresser)**

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

SỐ QUÂN (Service number):

NGÀY VÀ NƠI SINH (Date & place of birth):

ĐƠN VỊ (Address):

TRẠI GIAM PHI CÔNG MỸ BỊ BẮT TẠI  
NƯỚC VIỆT-NAM DÂN CHỦ CỘNG HÒA  
VIA MOSCOW, USSR Camp of detention for U.S. pilots captured  
in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON**

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

**GỬI (Addressee)**

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

ĐƠN VỊ (Address):

